

Docket No.: 2830-0174PUS1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hiroyuki MAKINO et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: July 16, 2004

Art Unit: N/A

For: EXPANDER

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A copy of each reference on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with a double asterisk (**) next to the Cite No. in the attached form PTO/SB/08 (facsimile) are not supplied because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application number PCT/JP03/00454, filed January 21, 2003 and relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

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A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

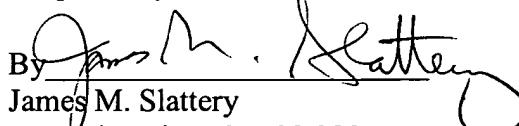
It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 16, 2004

JMS/smt

Respectfully submitted,

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned 10/501 540
				Filing Date	July 16, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Hiroyuki MAKINO
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	2830-0174PUS1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4,805,516	02-21-1989	Mori et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
BA**	JP-11-351136-A		12-21-1999		
BB**	JP-01-130074		05-23-1989		
BC**	JP-56-57901-U		05-19-1981		
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BG**	JP-09-268915-A		10-14-1997		
BH	JP-2002-256804-A		09-11-2002		
BI**	JP-64-53568-U		04-03-1989		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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